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metroLIFE



Your essential daily news | THURSDAY, JULY 23, 2015 | High 22°C/Low 11°C Who asked for rain?  



Many across Alberta were glued to their screens Wednesday afternoon as pictures of funnel clouds over Calgary spilled onto social media. None touched down in Calgary and no one was hurt. Story, **metroNEWS**. COURTESY MATT FORD

No show for Sinead

FOLK FESTIVAL
Organizers issue refunds, work to fill gaps

Sinead O'Connor is not coming to Edmonton's Folk Festival and, with two weeks to go before the festival, organizers are issuing refunds and working to find a replacement act.

The Irish singer-songwriter cancelled all of her summer tour dates Wednesday due to health concerns, including her scheduled Aug. 7 appearance on the festival's main stage.

But O'Connor is not the only act to scratch: Texas duo The Wind and The Wave have also pulled out from their scheduled Sunday, Aug. 9 performance.

With just two weeks between now and the festival launch, organizers are scrambling to fill the two spots — particularly O'Connor's Friday night act.

"It's unlikely that we will find someone outside of who we already have, so we might just bump someone up that we already have. We're just waiting to hear on a few things," festival producer Terry Wickham said.

Wickham said he heard about both cancellations within the past two days.

The Wind and The Wave cancelled their appearance at the festival to work on a new album, he said.

"I'm not happy about it, to be blunt. And I told them so," Wickham said. "I think that was very unprofessional that they just blew us out because they got a new producer for their album. You won't be seeing them coming back here anytime soon, not to the Folk Festival."

"It's a bit of a disappointment, in both cases. Now I'm scrambling around to fill in the sessions."

Friday-night tickets will be refunded at the point of purchase until July 31. ANDREA ROSS/METRO

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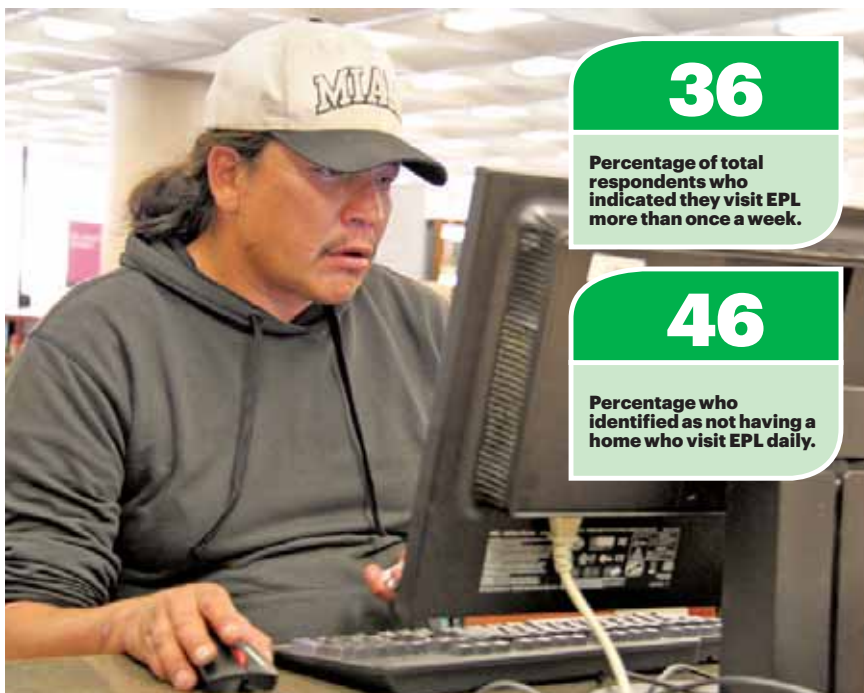
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36

Percentage of total respondents who indicated they visit EPL more than once a week.

46

Percentage who identified as not having a home who visit EPL daily.



62

Percentage who identified as not having a home who said EPL is the only computer they have access to.

21

Percentage who use computers at EPL to look for housing.

Scenes from Stanley Milner Library: Jason Leslie uses a computer, and Ryan Dwight and Vicky Musiowsky sit with their camping equipment. MICHELLE FALK/FOR METRO

A place to find shelter and hope

SURVEY

Many who live on Edmonton streets visit libraries daily

Michelle Falk
For Metro | Edmonton

A survey Metro has obtained shows that nearly half of

Edmonton's homeless population that responded uses one of the city's libraries almost every day.

The Edmonton Public Library surveys were conducted between March and April at the six locations with a social worker: Stanley Milner, Sprucewood, Abbottsfield, Highlands, Woodcroft and Strathcona.

About 4,000 people were surveyed and, of those, 222 identified themselves as not

“We’re one of the few places that is really open.” Linda Garvin

having a permanent home.

Of those surveyed who said they don't have a home, 46 per cent said they visit a library daily, while just 36 per cent of respondents with a home said they visit a library more than once a week.

For the homeless population who visit daily, 62 per

cent told researchers that the library is the only place with a computer they have access to.

Those findings compared to 21 per cent of the total respondents who did not have access to a computer outside of the library.

A majority of those using

the computers at the library were using them to search for work or for housing.

“We’re one of the few places that is really open, and unreservedly so aside from behavioural issues,” said Linda Garvin, the director of branch services at Stanley Milner, as she explained her response to the findings.

Garvin said the library carried out the survey to have a more informed response to targeting its services. We’re

about responsibility in that regard.”

In April, the Stanley Milner library made news when its sleeping ban was announced. Garvin said the ban is being “gently” enforced by staff through conversations, and that no one has been banned from the premises for sleeping.

Garvin said the library has had a positive response to the ban from both staff and visitors.



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Three stabbings move K-Days to raise security

CRIME

Metal detectors added on festival grounds



Andrea Ross
Metro | Edmonton

Edmonton's K-Days festival is adding security measures it has never used in the past after three men were stabbed at the midway Tuesday night.

All attendees will now have to go through metal detectors alongside backpack checks and pat-down safety procedures previously in place.

To reduce wait times at the gates, tickets will now be available online for the remainder of the carnival, which runs until July 26.

"Handheld metal detectors will be used from this point forward going onto the K-Days site, which is something we haven't done in the



K-Days revellers will face extra time at the gates after Northlands implemented increased security Wednesday.

METRO FILE

past," Northlands president and CEO Tim Reid said.

The move is in response to an incident Tuesday night in which three men, aged 19,

22 and 26 were stabbed at the midway before wandering out the gates looking for help. Medical personnel treated and transported the men to hospi-

tal with non-life-threatening injuries. A 21-year-old man was arrested on scene, but his charges are not related to the stabbings.

"Police believe this was an isolated incident," EPS Acting Staff Sgt. Cory Huculak said in a news release. "The three complainants and suspect are known to police."

Organizers of other upcoming Edmonton festivals say they won't be changing their security measures after Tuesday's stabbing.

"We're a family festival and it's non-alcohol, so we simply don't have problems," Heritage Days site manager Jack Little said.

Edmonton Folk Music Festival producer Terry Wickham said with dozens of volunteers helping out at the event each year, serious problems have never been an issue.

"We are vigilant at all times ... and we will keep doing bag checks," he said. "Mostly that's for alcohol, but you never know."

PERMITS

Downturn can't cool construction

Edmonton's construction sector is booming despite Alberta's economic downturn, and one economist says it's based on pent-up demand created by population growth.

The City of Edmonton issued building permits worth about \$2.4 billion in construction value as of June 30 this year — a 14 per cent increase from the same time last year, and an increase of 33 per cent compared to the five-year average, according to a report.

Residential permits issued by the city were highest in construction value from January to June, at \$1.6 billion; commercial permits followed, at \$488 million. Many projects are issued permits in stages as the construction progresses from foundation to occupancy.

Building-permit highlights

so far this year include \$91 million for the Stantec office and condo building, \$23 million for the Edmonton Civic Tower, and \$12.7 million for a development in the Brewery District.

Despite the province's recent economic downturn, City of Edmonton chief economist John Rose said demand for residential and commercial space is caused by the city's booming population.

"We went through a period of very rapid employment and population growth, particularly from 2012 to 2014," he said. "So on the residential side and commercial side, we have a lot of suppressed demand for new buildings. What you're seeing now is ... really a response to growth that has already happened."

ANDREA ROSS/METRO



What you're seeing now is ... really a response to (population) growth that has already happened.

Edmonton chief economist John Rose

TRANSPORTATION

Greyhound and VIA Rail planning intermodal station



Braeden Jones
Metro | Edmonton

When Greyhound loses its current space due to an expiring lease and Ice District development in downtown Edmonton next May, it might be moving in with VIA Rail Canada near the old city airport.

Maxime Dupont-Demers, a VIA Rail spokesman, confirmed that the company has been "having discussions with Greyhound regarding the possibility of accommodating them on (the) site and possibly share some common space."

He said it's not an unprecedented arrangement, as the partnership already exists elsewhere.

"In fact, Greyhound does have an intermodal agreement with VIA Rail Canada at the Pacific Central Station in Vancouver," he said, adding that there are similar set-ups in Moncton and Halifax with Tri-Maritime.

"There's some benefits for passengers as intermodality provides them with a simplified travel experience," he said. "Having VIA Rail and



Greyhound and VIA Rail may soon share a common space in Edmonton. KEVIN TUONG/METRO

Greyhound under the same roof would provide passengers of both carriers more options to and from their travel destinations."

VIA has applied for the city to adjust the lease on the city property on 121 Street to allow for the partnership to come to fruition.

"The land the bus would be stationed on belongs to the City of Edmonton," Dupont-Demers said, adding that despite the proximity and conveniences, "each entity would (still) operate separately."

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Backpacks provide kids with supplies

TOOLS FOR SCHOOL

Organization projects about 11,000 orders by September

Michelle Falk

For Metro | Edmonton

For the first time as principal at Sherwood Elementary School, Maureen Yates has requested a Tools for School backpack for every one of her 140 students this fall.

"It's not that it's just school supplies, it's a welcome — it's a real loving hug to say, 'we want you to do really well here and we will do everything we possibly can to help you with that,'" said Yates.

The backpacks, created by United Way volunteers, are being built in July and will be filled with essential school



Volunteers at the United Way Tools for School drive build backpacks for kids. Officials estimate they will build 11,000 for the coming school year. KEVIN TUONG/FOR METRO

supplies. Schools around the Capital Region request varying numbers of packs each year — from two to 150.

Already, Tools for School

has received orders for 10,400 backpacks but Jenn Dermott, program coordinator for the project, said she expects they will build close to 11,000 back-

packs before September.

The backpacks help teachers, Dermott said, "because they're not having to pull money from their pockets to supplement supplies, as so many teachers do."

About 40,000 children in the Alberta Capital Region are living in poverty, stated in the United Way news release. Nearly every school in the Edmonton region requests at least one backpack, officials said.

Yates said the demographic profile at her socially vulnerable school features high numbers of students who are learning to speak English. She said she knows many families will struggle to purchase school supplies.

Dermott says she gets a flurry of calls starting in August, because "parents are kind of hitting the panic button on how they're going to manage to deal with all of the expenses for school."

EXTREME WEATHER

Twister scare blows through Calgary

Calgary went from having tornado and thunderstorm warnings to blue skies in only a matter of hours Wednesday afternoon.

Tom Sampson, chief of the Calgary Emergency Management Agency (CEMA), said they were monitoring the storm systems closely before, during and after they happened.

"We were in touch directly with Environment Canada and their critical weather office and we were comparing notes as to what we were observing live," said Sampson.

He said the biggest issue CEMA dealt with after the torna-

do warning was issued around 1 p.m. was people evacuating buildings.

"In high winds and possible tornadoes, you should remain indoors. We experienced a number of buildings telling their occupants to evacuate," he said.

Bill McMurtry with Environment Canada said there was one report of a tornado touching down just southwest of the city in the Tsuu T'ina reserve.

"Since that time, we have had video confirmation of a brief touchdown," he said. "We have had reports of tree damage in that area."

LUCIE EDWARDS/METRO IN CALGARY

+ GOLF BALLS FROM THE SKY

After witnessing a funnel cloud in the sky, Calgarian Guy Rogers saw golf-ball-sized hail began to "plunge like meteors."

He said the rapid winds became a slight breeze after 40 minutes — essentially four seasons in under an hour. "Welcome to Calgary," he said. JEREMY SIMES/FOR METRO



Golf-ball-sized hail fell on some parts of the city.

JAMIE PARKINSON/CONTRIBUTED



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Bank of Canada Governor Stephen Poloz holds a news conference in Ottawa on July 15. The Bank of Canada's latest economic forecast puts the federal government on track to run a \$1-billion deficit in 2015-16. ADRIAN WYLD/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Feds on track to run \$1B shortfall: PBO

BANK OF CANADA

Projections cast doubt on promise to balance books

The Bank of Canada's latest economic forecast puts the federal government on track to run a \$1-billion deficit in 2015-16, casting doubt on the governing Conservatives' promise to balance the election-year books, says a new analysis by the parliamentary budget office.

The results of the calculations, based on the downgraded projection released last week by the central bank, also trim the government's expected surpluses over the next two years.

The bleaker fiscal outlook, released Wednesday, surfaces as political parties are pitching economic policies to voters ahead of the October election.

In its April budget, the Harper government predicted a string of surpluses, starting with \$1.4 billion for this election year. The government forecast surpluses of \$1.7 billion in 2016-17 and \$2.6 billion in 2017-18.

But the budget office projects the government producing a \$1-billion shortfall in 2015-16 followed by smaller surpluses of \$600 million and \$2.2 billion over the next two years.

Their calculations used fresh projections by the Bank of Canada, which last week lowered its outlook for economic growth in 2015 to 1.1 per cent, down from 1.9 per cent earlier this year.

Canada's economy has been struggling, leading some to state it has slipped into recession. It contracted in the first quarter of the year at an annualized rate of 0.6 per cent — in large part due to the steep drop in oil prices and the failure of other sectors to pick up the slack.

That number registered well below the federal budget's projection that real gross domestic product would grow by 1.2 per cent over the first three months of 2015.

The budget office factored in positive offsets that have appeared since the release of the spring budget: lower interest rates and higher gross domestic product inflation. Their projections also use up the government's \$1-billion annual reserve set aside for



Their economic record is in tatters. They've failed to be fiscally responsible.

Liberal MP Scott Brison

contingencies.

The analysis was produced by the independent office following requests by NDP MP Nathan Cullen and Liberal MP Scott Brison. Both their parties were quick to jump on the results.

Despite months of poor economic data, the Harper government says it remains confident it will run a surplus this year.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

ASSISTED SUICIDE

Panel won't dictate legislation: MacKay

Panelists tasked with consulting Canadians on the highly controversial issue of doctor-assisted death won't dictate the government's response to the Supreme Court's ruling on the matter, Justice Minister Peter MacKay says.

The government has been accused of creating a biased panel since two of its three members are outspoken opponents of allowing Canadians to seek medical help to end their lives.

But MacKay, who is not seeking re-election, said Wednesday it's important to remember who

holds the decision-making power.

"Ultimately, it is the executive branch of the country that will make these important decisions on legislation that I believe, and this is my view, are necessary to fill what is quite a gap now in our Criminal Code as a result of the Carter decision," MacKay said in Halifax.

MacKay said the panelists will consult with a "broad array of participants" before reporting back to the government in late fall — after the Oct. 19 election.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

NOVA SCOTIA

LGBTQ families invited to foster

Nova Scotia is reaching out to the LGBTQ community through a social media campaign to encourage them to become foster parents.

The campaign will run during this month's Pride celebrations and end on July 26.

"Our hope is to encourage responsible adults in non-traditional families to consider becoming a foster parent," Community Services minister Joanne Bernard said in a

statement.

"We hope that same-sex couples and others will be encouraged by this campaign to find out more."

The Community Services department says Nova Scotia has about 800 children living with foster families, and like other parts of North America, has experienced a decline in the number of foster families in the past five years.

METRO HALIFAX

IN BRIEF

Canada has nearly wiped out transmission of HIV from moms to babies

Canada has virtually eliminated the incidence of mothers passing HIV to their infants at birth, primarily because of high rates of prenatal testing and ready access to drug treatment that subdues the infection, researchers say.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Couple with 30 feline friends removed from Quebec City home

Firefighters wearing special equipment have removed a man and a woman from their Quebec City home after finding about 30 cats in the residence. The residents, who are believed to be in their 50s, were taken to hospital on Tuesday to undergo health tests.

THE CANADIAN PRESS



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NE073Z115

Wildfires the 'new normal'

BRITISH COLUMBIA

Premier Clark blames climate change for altering terrain

Relentless forest fires burning across British Columbia may be the new normal, Premier Christy Clark warned as she stood not far from a raging fire that threatened homes in her own riding.

Clark spoke near the Westside Road fire outside West Kelowna on Wednesday, where flames have forced emergency officials to issue evacuation orders to the residents of 70 homes.

It's one of 10 evacuation alerts or orders across the province, where more than 250 blazes are burning, 43 of which broke out on Tuesday following a series of lightning storms.

The premier said she is concerned that climate change has altered the terrain, drying out the land and making it more vulnerable to fire, and as a result, what B.C. is seeing isn't unusual and will happen more often.

As of Wednesday, the province has spent more than \$140



A hiker makes his way past a fire hazard sign on the Baden-Powell trail in north Vancouver earlier this week. Extreme heat and the lack of rain has put most of British Columbia in danger of forest fires. JONATHAN HAYWARD/THE CANADIAN PRESS

million battling the 1,300 wildfires that have broken out this season, and Clark said the province could spend another \$300 to \$400 million this year if the pace continues.

Clark said she doesn't think the fires will put the province into a deficit, because the government ran a surplus of \$1.7 billion last year and is expected to run a surplus again this com-

ing fiscal year.

"I am mostly concerned... that the forest fire season won't give us a break and that we're going to see more homes threatened, more people's livelihood threat-

ened, more forest resources lost."

Clark said B.C. must continue to fight climate change, be better prepared for wildfires and have the necessary resources to fight them.

About 40 per cent of wildfires are human caused, and Clark said they are considering stiffer fines for people who start fires by acting negligently, such as throwing burning cigarettes out of vehicle windows or leaving campfires unattended.

Earlier this month, Forests Minister Steve Thomson said he asked his parliamentary secretary Mike Morris to review the sanctions and bring forward ideas that may deter people from "irresponsible behaviour."

Glen Burgess, the incoming incident commander for the Westside Road fire, said they've been unable to contain any area of the blaze, but the number of personnel has increased threefold since Monday.

Crews have dropped fire retardant on the north and south flanks and have burned out fuels ahead of the fire, he said.

Burgess said firefighters are making progress and protecting homes remains the priority.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

IN BRIEF

CP Rail to appeal rulings tied to Lac-Mégantic settlement fund

Canadian Pacific Railway Ltd. is continuing its legal fight against a recent court decision that awards more than \$430 million to victims and creditors of the Lac-Mégantic train derailment.

CP has filed for permission to appeal one of three decisions rendered by Quebec Superior Court Justice Gaetan Dumas regarding the settlement fund.

Dumas approved the \$430-million package earlier this month and rejected three CP motions seeking to gain access to privileged documents, to have the fund cancelled and to have the proceedings moved to Federal Court.

Court documents state the railway is trying to appeal the decision blocking its access to the details of the settlement fund.

Jeff Orenstein, a lawyer for victims of the deadly train disaster in 2013, says the company's lawyers have notified him to expect a second appeal on one of the other two judgments.

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Officials defend video of black motorist's arrest

UNITED STATES

Driver later found dead in jail cell from alleged suicide

Authorities in the U.S. say a patrol car video showing the arrest of black motorist, who was later found dead in a jail cell, was not edited or manipulated.

The death of 28-year-old Sandra Bland, three days after she was arrested by a white law enforcement officer during a heated confrontation over a minor traffic infraction, is the latest case to cast national attention on the interactions between police and minorities in the United States.

Officials say Bland hanged herself with a plastic garbage bag in her jail cell, a contention her family and supporters dispute. The video doesn't reveal what happened while she was in custody, but it depicts an emotional exchange in which the officer tried to drag Bland from her car, drew his stun gun and threatened her. The case has resonated on social media, with posts questioning the official account of the events.

The video posted by the Texas Department of Public Safety Tues-

day shows the trooper stopping Bland for failure to signal a lane change. The conversation turns hostile when the officer asks Bland to put out her cigarette and she asks why she can't smoke in her own car. The trooper then orders Bland to get out of the vehicle. When she refuses, the officer pulls what appears to be a weapon and says, "I will light you up."

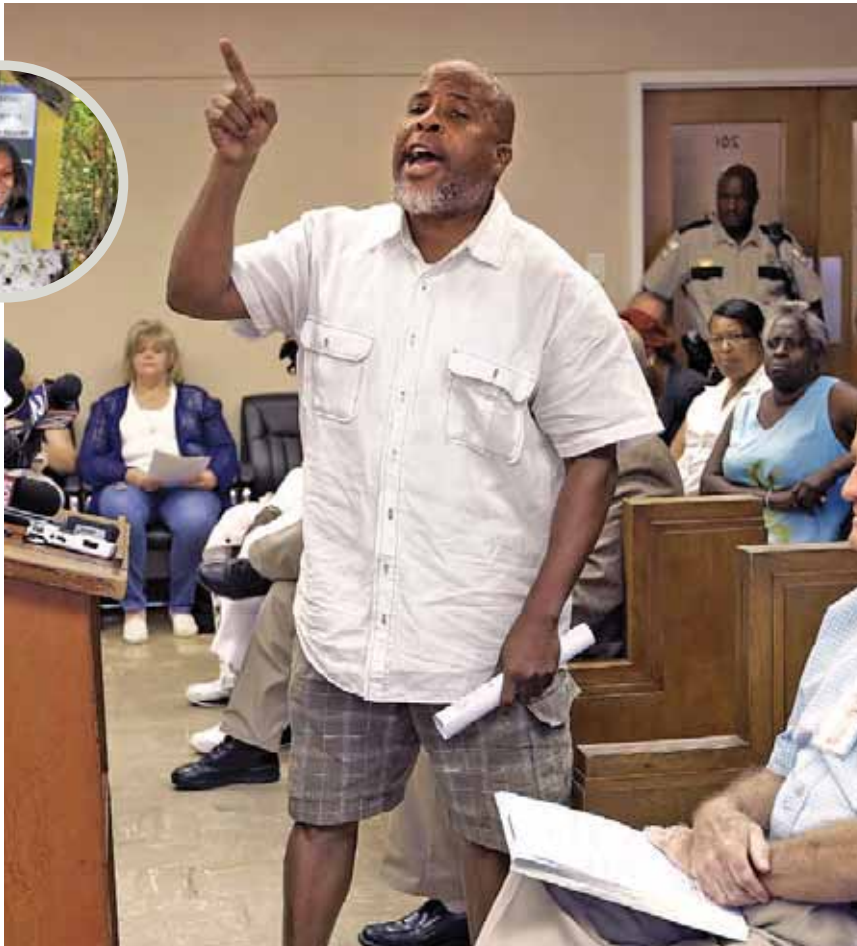
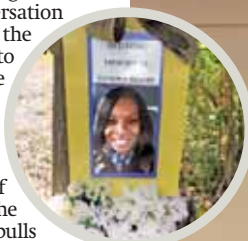
Out of the camera's view, Bland continues protesting her arrest, repeatedly using expletives and calling the officer a "pussy." At one point, she screams that he's about to break her wrists and complains that he knocked her head into the ground.

The video has drawn criticism for gaps and overlaps, but the

Texas Department of Public Safety insisted Wednesday that it had not been doctored.

DPS spokesman Tom Vinger said that glitches in the recording occurred when it was unloaded for public viewing.

In an affidavit released Tuesday, the trooper, Brian Encinia, said he used force "to subdue Bland to the ground," and she continued to fight back. He also said Bland swung her elbows at him and kicked him in his right shin. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



DeWayne Charleston speaks at a Waller County Commissioners Court meeting about the jail cell death of Sandra Bland in Hempstead, Texas, on Wednesday. PAT SULLIVAN/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

GLOBAL HEALTH

MERS quelled: S. Korea

MERS-CoV (Middle East respiratory syndrome coronavirus) has claimed the lives of 36 people worldwide while the South Korean government has told foreign diplomats the outbreak in the nation is effectively over.

The World Health Organization (WHO) reported the figure of 36 dead Wednesday, along with 186 people in the Republic of Korea and one person in China as having contracted the disease.

The South Korean government said no new MERS cases have been reported in more than two weeks and that it is now safe for travel.

The outbreak led thousands of tourists to cancel visits to South Korea, and Korean Air Lines Co Ltd. as well as Asiana Airlines Inc. whittled down their flight schedules.

The companies said Tuesday they will resume normal operations early next month.

MERS-CoV is a strain of coronavirus that causes a viral respiratory illness called MERS. The disease was first reported in Saudi Arabia in September 2012, WHO said.

The outbreak in South Korea has been the largest outside Saudi Arabia, the organization added.

MERS, along with a drought in South Korea, is expected to slow the country's economic growth in the second quarter, AFP reported Finance Minister Choi Kyung-Hwan as having said earlier this week.

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NORWAY A GRIM ANNIVERSARY NATO Secretary General Jens Stoltenberg places a rose in memory of 69 people killed in shootings at a youth camp in 2011. It was the worst massacre in Norway since World War II. FREDRIK VARFJELL/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Car bombs kill at least 26

IRAQ

Scores injured as blasts strike Shiite markets

A pair of car bombs exploded Wednesday at crowded markets in predominantly Shiite Baghdad neighbourhoods, killing at least 26 people and wounding 58, authorities said.

The first explosion took place in the impoverished neighbourhood of al-Bayaa in the south-western sector of the Iraqi capital, a police official said. The blast killed at least 18 people and wounded 36, the official said.

Later in the day, a second car bomb detonated in the north-

eastern neighbourhood of al-Shaab, killing at least eight and wounding 22, police said.

Hospital officials corroborated the casualty figures. All officials spoke on condition of anonymity as they were not authorized to brief journalists.

No one immediately claimed responsibility for the attacks. The Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant (ISIL) frequently targets Shiite areas across the country, as well as military checkpoints and government installations. The radical Sunni group seeks to destabilize the Shiite-led government in Baghdad. ISIL

holds roughly a third of Iraq and neighbouring Syria in its self-declared "caliphate."

Last Friday, the militant group attacked a popular market in Iraq's eastern Diyala province, killing 115 people — the majority of them Shiite — and wounding more than 170 in what was one of the largest single attacks in Iraq over the past decade.

Bombings occur almost daily in Baghdad, but violence has been relatively subdued in the capital since the height of sectarian violence in 2006 and 2007, when

hundreds of people were killed across Iraq almost daily.

Large-scale military operations are currently underway in Iraq's western Anbar province and in Salahuddin province, north of Baghdad, as the Iraqi military and the government-sanctioned Popular Mobilization Forces attempt to reclaim territory in the country's Sunni heartland.

A U.S.-led coalition includes Canadian warplanes and support personnel.

In New York, envoy Jan Kubis told the UN Security Council on Wednesday that the United Nations is "very worried" about reports that desperate Iraqis are turning to ISIL for help.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



The human cost of the conflict remains far too high.

UN envoy Jan Kubis



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CURRENCIES

Loonie at 2004 low

The Canadian dollar dropped to levels Wednesday not seen in more than a decade as the price of oil and gold both came under pressure.

The loonie was down 0.53 of a cent to 76.70 cents US. That's the lowest level since Sept. 1, 2004.

"Those are the two things will really drive the currency in the short term," he said. "It's difficult

to find a positive catalyst to get things back to 80 (cents) or above."

The dollar has been on a downward slide since last summer, when the price of oil started to weaken.

Oil prices dropped below the \$50 US mark in trading Wednesday, settling at \$49.19 US, while gold lost \$12 US to fall to \$1,091.50 US an ounce.

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Greece gets more cash

ECONOMY

Extra liquidity means people can continue to access funds

Greece's liquidity-starved banks got a new cash injection from the European Central Bank on Wednesday, hours before a key vote in parliament on further economic reforms demanded by international creditors in return for a third bailout.

A European banking official told The Associated Press the ECB decided to increase emergency liquidity to Greek banks by 900 million euros (\$980 million US) — the second such cash injection in just under a week.

Fearing a run by depositors flocking to take their savings out of Greek banks, the government imposed capital controls more than three weeks ago, restricting daily withdrawals to 60 euros (\$65 US) per account holder. Extra ECB liquidity means that Greek banks will still be able to hand out cash. Prime Minister Alexis Tsipras'



Demonstrators stand in front of a banner reading No to Euro during an anti-austerity rally outside the Greek Parliament in Athens on Wednesday. GIANNIS PAPANIKOS/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

radical left-led government is facing its second crunch test in parliament in a week. Failure to pass the economic measures could undermine his coalition and trigger fresh fears over the country's future in the shared euro currency. The vote on changes to

Greece's judicial and banking sectors is one of the requirements that European creditors have insisted upon in order for negotiations on a third bailout for Greece to begin.

After losing the support of a large chunk of his own party's lawmakers during a vote last

week on a creditor-demanded austerity measures, Tsipras has to rely on support from pro-European opposition parties to pass measures.

Negotiations with creditors are expected to start soon after the vote.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

FURNITURE

Ikea offers wall anchors after chests tip over killing 2 boys

After Ikea chests tipped over and fatally injured two boys, safety regulators say consumers should stop using Ikea's dressers and chests for children unless the products are mounted to a wall.

The Swedish furniture giant is offering a free kit to help consumers do that.

The kit will be available to consumers who bought 27 million chests and dressers above specific heights, including 7 million of Ikea's Malm chests. Both the company and the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission say the furniture should be kept away from children unless it is anchored to a wall.

Ikea and the CPSC say two boys, both around two years



The Malm 3-drawer dresser.
IKEA/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

old, were killed in 2014 after Malm chests that had not been secured to walls tipped over and fell on them.

The agency and Ikea say they have received 14 reports of Malm chests tipping over, resulting in four injuries. Ikea is aware of three other deaths

reported from other models of chests and drawers that tipped over. Those deaths were described as happening since 1989. They say consumers shouldn't use Ikea children's chests and drawers taller than 23 1/2 inches and adult chests and drawers taller than 29 1/2 inches unless they are securely anchored to the wall.

Ikea and the CPSC said a two-year-old boy in West Chester, Pennsylvania, was fatally pinned against his bed in February 2014 after a Malm 6-drawer chest fell on him, and a 23-month old boy from Snohomish, Washington, died after being trapped beneath a three-drawer Malm chest when it tipped over.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

IN BRIEF

BlackBerry buying crisis alert messaging firm

BlackBerry Ltd. has signed a deal to buy California-based software company AtHoc, which develops emergency alert systems for government agencies, military and other organizations. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

market minute

	DOLLAR 76.70¢ (-0.53¢)
	TSX 14,307.12 (-69.12)
	OIL \$49.19 US (-\$1.67)
	GOLD \$1,091.50 US (-\$12)

NATURAL GAS: \$2.897 US (+1.5¢)
DOW JONES: 17,851.04 (-68.25)

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URBAN ETIQUETTE: ELLEN VANSTONE ON TIPPING



THE QUESTION

I'm from Australia and don't understand your tipping ways up here. In the interests of fitting in, what do I need to know about tipping in Canada?

Dear Ellen,

I'm from Australia and I don't understand your tipping ways up here. Maybe because our minimum wage Down Under is higher than it is here? Anyways, in the interests of fitting in, what do I need to know about tipping in Canada?

— Skippy

Dear Skippy-and-I-know-that's-not-your-real-name,

No doubt you have heard of the World Wide Web, where I have just learned that your native land's minimum wage is an ultra-civilized \$17.29 per hour, and where you could just as easily find out that standard tipping practice in North America is 15 to 20 per cent for serving staff, taxi drivers (except Uber, which includes the tip in the price), hairdressers and the like. So you don't need me to tell you the amount you should leave.

However, since you seem to want some advice, and since I love giving it, why don't I lecture you on the custom of tipping and how to approach it with the proper attitude?

The first thing you need to know is that tipping is an arcane, wildly-open-to-abuse, anti-democratic custom. It's supposed to reward people who provide good service and punish people who do not.

But that cold plate of congealed pasta your server just inflicted on you may or may not have been said server's fault: Maybe the drunk bastard cook in the kitchen forgot about it for 20 minutes or the manipulative cow who "manages" the restaurant assigned too many servers to one section, and not enough to your section. Or maybe a selfish, irresponsible server called in sick for like the 10th time this month and your server is now working a

Those few coins will make a difference to the person who relies on tips in a country where the minimum wage is universally disgraceful.

double shift, even though she is exhausted and has an exam the next day...

I'm speaking theoretically, of course, and am not referring in any way to the various subpar establishments at which I slaved during my student days.

The point is, workers

should be paid properly and not expected to rely on the kindness of strangers.

That being said, and as long as the vile custom of tipping continues, and as long as you yourself are gainfully employed, I encourage you to tip generously.

There is nothing more cringe-making than the spectre of a fully grown, well paid adult sitting at a table in a nice restaurant, or hunched in the back of a cab, madly deducting the tax and working out a 15 per cent tip to the penny while the "servant" meekly awaits a dollop of largesse. Ugh, it's like being caught in a really boring time-warp episode of Downtown Abbey. Just round up the amount to the nearest dollar!



© Ani Castillo

Or even the nearest multiple of five if you can afford it.

You will never miss the extra toonie or two, but those few coins actually will make a difference to a person who relies on tips in a country where the minimum wage is universally disgraceful (ranging from \$10.20 in Saskatchewan to \$12.50 in the Northwest Territories).

What's more, studies show that generosity makes you happier and healthier. It's a win-win, Skippy. Welcome to our stingy shores. And please do feel free to send me a cash tip for the excellent service I have just provided.

Need advice?
Email Ellen

scene@metronews.ca

ROSEMARY WESTWOOD

metroview

Howard's 'game' is narcissism, misogyny and delusion

Luke Howard, a self-styled pickup artist, stalks women in Ottawa's streets.

He calls himself a "Dr." and hypnotist who helps men with social anxiety talk to women in the daytime, without the aid of booze. He secretly records his attempts to get phone numbers on video.

In the wake of online backlash — via the hashtag #CorneredInOttawa, which women use to share stories about him on Twitter and Tumblr — Howard has taken the videos down and issued a limp mea culpa. He wrote, word for word, "I have started conversations with hundreds of women in public places and if as few felt uncomfortable then you are genuinely and truly sorry."

The media, as it must, has taken his man-hero routine somewhat seriously. And I'll grant that it's not wrong, on face, to help others improve their social skills.

But let's get this straight: Everything about Howard is wrong.

He's lied. He said 99.9 per cent of women like his advances. So far, 24 women have complained about the way he approached them on the street, say #CorneredInOttawa organizers. At least one has filed a police report. Layla, 33, didn't want to give her last name for fear she'd be trolled online.

"Giving a woman a compli-

ment in the street is not harassment," Howard wrote. But Layla said Howard told her she looks like Tracy Chapman (she does not) and that he's "always had a thing for Tracy Chapman, I've always wanted to f---k Tracy Chapman" before he referenced jerking off.

Howard said he doesn't corner women, but Layla told me every time she took a step, he took a step. She felt trapped and afraid to get aggressive.

Howard is ineffective. Some women say they spoke nicely to him, hoping he'd go away. Layla made up a fake boyfriend. Some gave him their phone number so he'd leave them alone, and then never responded to calls or text messages.

He's making it harder for others to have non-creepy encounters. "He's the exact reason why women don't like being approached in the daytime, and might miss out on actually normal dudes," Layla told me. "My guard goes up just from a guy asking an innocuous question."

Finally, Howard said he's "always been about love and connection and bringing people closer together." But we all know picking up is just about sex, a highly unlikely outcome of his methods.

So, guys, do not take notes. Howard's "daygame" has no game, just narcissism, misogyny and delusion.

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PHILOSOPHER CAT
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PUNCTUALITY IS THE VIRTUE OF THE BORED.

EVYLYN WAUGH



Turkish tattoo artist Eva Karabudak is known worldwide for her cross stitch designs. CONTRIBUTED

Stitchin' tattoos

EMBROIDERY ON SKIN

Even grandma would approve of these tats

Emily Laurence
Metro in New York

Maybe it's because of Etsy. Maybe it's because of those NSFW cross stitch pillows taking over Pinterest. Whatever the reason, cross stitch tattoos are having a moment.

Eva Karabudak is a Turkish

tattoo artist who has become world famous for mastering the trend. "I used to do cross stitch on canvas and cloth at home and decided to do tattoos out of it," she tells us, adding that she first tried it out on friends and then got hooked on it.

"It's an anchor back to a lot of people's childhoods. That's why I believe it gets noticed," she says. But before you decide to get one, Karabudak says you have to do your research. "Not all images or ideas can be applied to a cross stitch design. It all starts with a thought, and that should be carefully studied before going into design."

Nicole May, 38, is a tattoo artist at Tiki Town Tattoos in Calgary and says she definitely has seen cross stitch tattoos becoming increasingly popular. "I see a lot of subversive cross stitch on Etsy and I feel like it is something a lot of young people are picking up as a hobby. Cross stitch tattoos have become popular along with the general trend of cross stitch," she says.

If you want to get a cross stitch tattoo, her biggest tip is to find an artist who actually cross stitches as a hobby. "They'll have a better understanding of design layout and execution," May says.

3 CROSS STITCH INKED WEARERS



"I own a cross stitch business called Hatch605. I manage a modern makers gift store, so I am around makers all day. When people see my tattoo, I typically get reactions from older generations because it evokes a nostalgic feeling. To me, it's a way to help keep traditional art alive."

Name: Ashley Rieck
Age: 31
Occupation: Manager of Unglued in South Dakota



"A fellow tattoo artist and I wanted to figure out how to do a cross stitch tattoo. We are both very crafty with crocheting and cross stitching, so it just made sense. It's challenging to tattoo and we wanted to experiment, so I let her try it out on me!"

Name: Crystal Balser
Age: 35
Occupation: Owner of MOD Tattoo in Ottawa, a completely vegan studio



"I love to cross stitch. I have a small home business where I custom cross stitch family portraits. On all the portraits I include a red heart that floats over the family. It's my signature. People find my tattoo very unique. The most reoccurring compliment I get is how much it suits me."

Name: Brittany Wiebe
Age: 28
Occupation: Homemaker/cross stitcher

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Colour therapy

BOOKS

Adults mindfully stay in the lines in latest publishing craze

Adult colouring books are giving Harper Lee a run for the money on bestseller lists this summer.

Dover Publications has sold more than 3 million adult colouring books with titles like *Flower Fashion Fantasies*.

Quarto Publishing will have 1.3 million in print this year. *Secret Garden: An Inky Treasure Hunt*, by one of the genre's most popular illustrators, Johanna Basford, remains a top seller on Amazon two years after its initial publication.

In fact, adult colouring books occupied as many of eight of the top 20 slots in a spot-check of Amazon's bestseller list recently.

"We cannot print them fast enough," said Amy Yodanis, Quarto's head of marketing. "We are getting orders of 60,000 at one time from some of our biggest retailers."

Mandalas, perhaps because they are known to be meditative to begin with (Karl Jung apparently started every morning by colouring the sacred circles), are especially popular subjects, but you can find everything from fairies to cities to books featuring NSFW adult content.

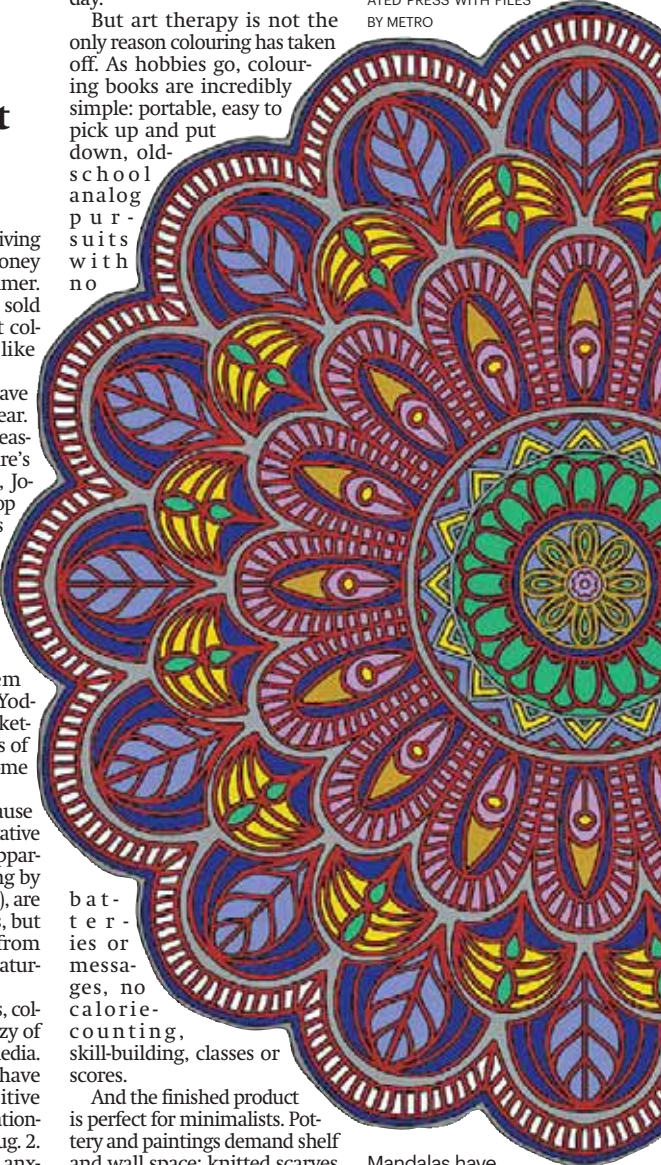
There are colouring clubs, colouring contests and a frenzy of colouring posts on social media. BuzzFeed and Upworthy have both given the trend positive press and Dover plans a national colouring book day on Aug. 2.

"People are stressed and anxious all the time," said Jeannine Dillon, Quarto's publisher. "Colouring is a way to calm down

and unwind at the end of the day."

But art therapy is not the only reason colouring has taken off. As hobbies go, colouring books are incredibly simple: portable, easy to pick up and put down, old-school analog pursuits with no

(unless you frame it). THE ASSOCIATED PRESS WITH FILES BY METRO



batteries or messages, no calorie-counting, skill-building, classes or scores.

And the finished product is perfect for minimalists. Pottery and paintings demand shelf and wall space; knitted scarves cry out to be worn or bestowed as gifts. But a coloured-in page takes up almost no space at all

Mandalas have proven to be popular colouring book material. SKYHORSE PUBLISHING

THREE TO TRY

Mandalas: Coloring for Artists

Mandala images are traditionally meditative (and often porn free), so a colouring book filled with these images is highly apropos. This one has full colour images of the spiritual circles that you can use for inspiration, bars to create your own palettes and perforated pages for easy display. METRO



Creative Coloring Inspirations

This book suggests that you can use whatever medium you'd like, and features messages meant to inspire on every page, like "Go for it" and "Follow your heart."



The Mindfulness Coloring Book: Anti-Stress Art Therapy for Busy People

This pocket-sized option is good for colour meditation on-the-go, and features cute, original drawings that include abstract geometrics, myriad florals and cats. METRO



GROOMING TRENDS

Hair: Grow it, flow it, flaxen, waxin'

While Ginnifer Goodwin and Kelly Ripa both recently unveiled boldly dyed locks, other women are broadening the boundaries with colourfully tinted hair above and below the belt.

Once Upon A Time star Goodwin showcased her grey pixie cut at Comic-Con International in San Diego, while talk show host Ripa revealed her bright blue bob on Instagram.

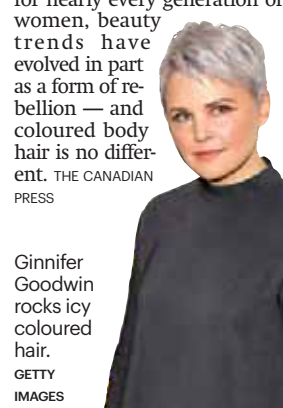
But there are a rainbow's worth of options for those seeking a less visible hair colour experiment.

Wax Hair Removal Bar offers bikini tints in hues like pink, green, red and orange. Keeping in step with the "something borrowed" bridal tradition, blue is a popular option during wedding season, noted founder Luba Sasowski. Sasowski said tinting is favoured by older clients not opting for full Brazilian waxes.

The company also offers a pair of sparkling post-wax options: the

application of Swarovski crystals down below. Some women are ditching their razors and eschewing waxing to let their body hair flow freely. Pop star Miley Cyrus has proudly flaunted her coloured armpits on social media.

New York-based beauty historian Rachel Weingarten said for nearly every generation of women, beauty trends have evolved in part as a form of rebellion — and coloured body hair is no different. THE CANADIAN PRESS



Ginnifer Goodwin rocks icy coloured hair. GETTY IMAGES

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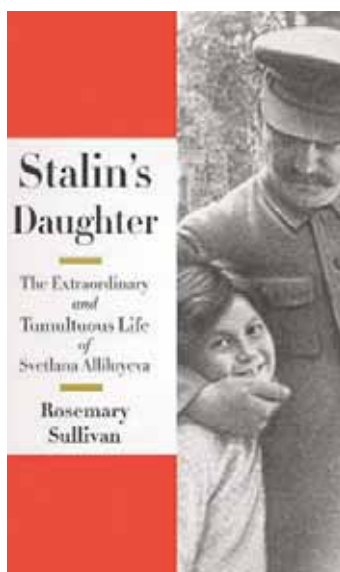
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BIOGRAPHIES & MEMOIRS TO READ THIS SUMMER

This fall promises to be rich in memoirs and biographies, with titles forthcoming from musicians Elvis Costello, Carrie Brownstein and Patti Smith, actress Drew Barrymore and Canadian sports figures Clara Hughes and Colleen Jones. But if waiting for the leaves to turn doesn't appeal, here are five new books out this summer to tide you over. **SUE CARTER/METRO**

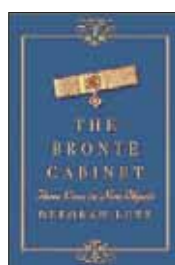
History

When it comes to research, no one can accuse Toronto author **Rosemary Sullivan** of being a slacker. The Governor General's Literary Award winner travelled around the world, interviewing personal contacts and studying government documents to create her in-depth portrait of Svetlana Alliluyeva (known later as Lana Peters), the only daughter of Russian dictator Joseph Stalin. In **Stalin's Daughter: The Extraordinary and Tumultuous Life of Svetlana Alliluyeva**, we learn that Alliluyeva's complex relationship with her father was just one of the driving forces behind a volatile life filled with political upheaval and troubled relationships.



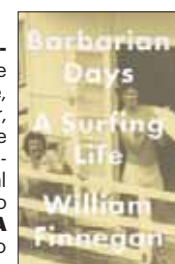
Literature

The Brontë sisters have inspired numerous biographies, but American writer and historian **Deborah Lutz** takes a unique approach by selecting nine artifacts out of hundreds left behind by Charlotte, Emily and Anne, including mourning jewelry containing snippets of hair and a brass dog collar. Given that Lutz has previously dedicated books to Victorian eroticism, gothic villains and relics of death in literature, **The Brontë Cabinet** is guaranteed to be a fascinating read.



Sports

New Yorker enthusiasts will appreciate **William Finnegan's** perspective on riding the waves. A 30-year contributor to the magazine, Finnegan has been surfing for even longer, since arriving in California from Hawaii at the age of 13 during the 1960s heyday of LSD-glazed beach-bum culture. Part international travelogue, part personal investigation into the nature of obsession, **Barbarian Days: A Surfing Life** will appeal even to those who prefer keeping their feet on dry land.



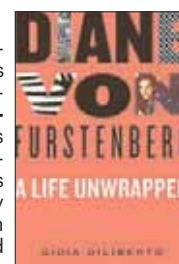
Music

Is there anything more to say about Bob Dylan that hasn't been written in Rolling Stone? Guitarist and music historian **Elijah Wald** believes there is, having recently authored **Dylan Goes Electric!: Newport, Seeger, Dylan and the Night that Split the Sixties**. For his biography of the gravel-voiced troubadour, Wald focuses on the moment at the 1965 Newport Folk Festival when Dylan transformed from a political acoustic-folk hero into a bona fide rock star backed by an electric band.



Fashion

Diane von Furstenberg's name is synonymous with her signature wrap dress, but as Gioia Diliberto describes in the new biography, **Diane von Furstenberg: A Life Unwrapped**, the jet-setting former princess is also a feminist icon and savvy entrepreneur who's weathered more than 40 years in a tough business (and a terrible reality show). Bonus: salacious details about von Furstenberg's affairs with Warren Beatty and Richard Gere.



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Legend's descendants reissue big-game tale

GREEN HILLS OF AFRICA

Hemingway's family urges fresh look at primal thriller

Eighty years after the release of *Green Hills of Africa*, the son and grandson of Ernest Hemingway are urging a fresh look at a work critics have often set aside.

Published in 1935, *Green Hills of Africa* was Hemingway's account of a hunting safari on the Serengeti Plains, a chronicle of adventure and a literary challenge Hemingway set up for himself. Anticipating by decades Truman Capote's "non-fiction novel," the classic *In Cold*

Blood, Hemingway wanted to prove that "an absolutely true book" can "compete with a work of the imagination."

The new edition is part of a series authorized by the Hemingway estate that already includes reissues of *A Moveable Feast*, *The Sun Also Rises* and *A Farewell to Arms*.

Grandson Sean Hemingway contributes an introduction, while son Patrick Hemingway, a boy at the time his parents were in Africa, shares personal memories. The book also includes photographs, early drafts of the finished narrative and a diary kept by the author's then wife, Pauline Pfeiffer.

"She's not a person who's well known, so it's wonderful to have a sustained piece of writing by her," Sean Hemingway said recently of his grandmother, the second of Ernest Hemingway's four wives. "It's also a wonderful complement to my grandfather's work."

As Pfeiffer's diaries reveal, *Green Hills of Africa* was not entirely factual. The author rearranged some chronology and minimized a bout of dysentery so severe that he had to be flown out of the



Author Ernest Hemingway and his wife Pauline Pfeiffer arrive in New York aboard an ocean liner in 1934, following a three-month vacation in eastern Africa hunting lions. AP/FILE PHOTO

area. Pfeiffer's journal also describes a near-tragedy — the author's rifle fell off a car and fired — that inspired Hemingway's classic short story *The Short Happy Life of Francis Macomber*, in which the title character is killed by a sudden blast from his wife's gun.

In the decade before *Green Hills of Africa*, the story collection *In Our Time* and the novels *The Sun Also Rises* and *A Farewell to Arms* had made Hemingway one of the world's most famous authors. Critics have viewed *Green Hills of Africa*, written while he was in his mid-30s, as an

early sign of his legend overtaking his work. Edmund Wilson, who had been a leading champion of Hemingway, despaired that the author in his non-fiction persona had become a bloated parody, Ernest Hemingway, the Old Master of Key West.

"Something dreadful seems to happen to Hemingway as soon as he begins to write in the first person," Wilson wrote. "Among his creations, he is certainly his own worst-drawn character, and he is his own worst commentator. His very prose style goes to pot."

More recently, *Green Hills of Africa* has been criticized for its detailed catalogue of animal slaughter and for its reduction of Africa and Africans to backdrops for the author's personal experiences.

Sean Hemingway acknowledged that parts of *Green Hills* might be uncomfortable for modern readers, but noted that the book had inspired many people's interest in Africa — his own included — and provided a snapshot not just of the author in his physical prime but of a historical moment.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



“Something dreadful seems to happen to Hemingway as soon as he begins to write in the first person.”

Writer Edmund Wilson

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ROMANCE

Jonas deflects dating rumours

IN HOLLYWOOD

Ned Ehrbar



Nick Jonas is getting pretty good at deflecting dating rumours — but then given his romantic history, that's not surprising.

The latest speculation hounding the former Disney star? That he's spending time with Selena Gomez. When pressed on the subject during an interview with London's Capital FM, Jonas sets the record straight: "We kind of ran into each other a couple of weeks ago, like walking in Venice," he says. "We were both with separate groups of friends and we ran into each other."

Seems innocent enough. Anything else, Nick? "I put a dinner together with a bunch of really great people, like the Haim girls, who I love. They're awesome. They're the best," Jonas says.

"It was a big group of people and we all had a great time. We connect in that sense. It was nice to connect and just catch up. I'll leave it there." Oh my God, guys. Nick Jonas is dating all of his friends at once!



metroGOSSIP MUST READ

Theron denies she's set to star in Fifty Shades sequel, Fifty Shades Darker. ALL PHOTOS GETTY IMAGES

Theron's red carpet domination

MOVIES

Rumours have Theron cracking the whip in a Fifty Shades sequel

So apparently there's been a pretty persistent rumour that Oscar-winner Charlize Theron is going to star in the Fifty Shades of Grey sequel, Fifty

Shades Darker, as Christian Grey's former lover who first schooled him in the kinky arts.

Ridiculous? Well, Theron herself certainly seems to think so. "I hadn't heard that one. Wow, I'm just learning so much about myself on this carpet tonight," she told E! News at the Dark Places premiere this week.

Even if she were involved, she'd apparently be more interested in replacing Jamie Dornan, anyway. "I'm going to play the kinky guy with the

room," she joked. "I need to stretch. I need to find something outside the box."

OK, fine, but speaking of sequels, how about a Mad Max: Fury Road followup?

"Nobody has come to tell me anything. I haven't been in town, so I don't know what's going on. There's a lot of talk about it. I don't know if it's real," she said. "Look, I would be honoured to be asked back, but I have no idea what's going to happen."

NED EHRBAR/FOR METRO

ROMANCE

Swank's love game

There's some joke in here about always fraternizing with the help. Oscar-winner Hilary Swank — who previously dated her talent agent — has reportedly now taken up with her "hunky" tennis coach, Ruben Torres.

"When he first asked her out, she was lukewarm, but after a couple of dates things just got hotter and hotter," a source tells Life &

Style. "It's really hard for them to keep it a secret."

Not that they haven't been trying, mind you, as the source says that over the course of their three months together they've been "staying away from PDA and only holding hands under the table."

Well, so much for that.

NED EHRBAR/FOR METRO



LOVE AND SEXISM IN HOLLYWOOD

Thompson's sexism update

She may be an Oscar-winning screenwriter, but actress Emma Thompson is keeping her language simple — and salty — when it comes to Hollywood sexism.

"I am not impressed at all. I think it's still completely s—, actually," she tells the Radio Times. "When I was younger, I really did think we were on our way to a better world, and when I look at it now, it is in a worse state than I have known it — particularly for women — and I find that very disturbing and sad. I don't think there's any appreciable improvement and I think that, for women, the question of how they are supposed to look is worse than it was even when I was young." NED EHRBAR/FOR METRO

Shelton and Lambert make divorce Twitter-official

In these plugged-in modern times, how do you really know a celebrity couple's marriage is over? It's not the joint statement announcing a divorce.

No, it's how they interact with each other on social media. And if that's any indication, then Blake Shelton and Miranda Lambert are really, truly over. Lambert swapped out a red carpet photo of the pair on her Twitter profile in favour of one promoting her current tour, while Shelton replaced his background image — Lambert's Marie Claire cover — with one of him performing. There's no turning back now.

NED EHRBAR/FOR METRO



Miranda Lambert and Blake Shelton are really, truly done.

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What they're asking

New condos that aren't in pre-construction and are ready to move in are perfect for buyers who don't want to purchase from plans and wait three years for completion. Metro looks at two-bedroom suites in newer condominium buildings in central locations.

Duncan McAllister FOR METRO



\$379,900

Edmonton

This attractive building at 10303 - 111 St. is part of the Alta Vista condominiums complex. The foyer has a cozy sitting area with box ceiling features and stone and tile accents. The unit is finished with hardwood, tile and granite countertops. The U-shaped kitchen has stainless appliances, tiled back splash, and an extended breakfast bar. One bedroom has direct access to a patio, while the other bedroom features a four-piece ensuite. Ryan P. Dutka is a sales representative with Re/Max River City. 780-988-0001.



\$224,900

Winnipeg

For sale is a three-year-old condo at a great price in the Crestview neighbourhood. The unit features in-suite laundry and a luxury kitchen with all the appliances included. There's also a low-maintenance yard and private balcony. Included are all blinds, washer, dryer, dishwasher, refrigerator, stove, and a parking pad. The building is located close to shopping, restaurants and bus service. Listing agent Chris Kenny is a sales representative with Re/Max Professionals, 204-318-6794.

\$649,900

Toronto

This spacious suite in the Bohemian Embassy condos boasts 1,165 sq. ft. of space and a 100-sq.-ft. terrace with southern exposure. With transit at the doorstep, the building offers a roster of amenities including visitor parking, concierge service, a gym, media room, two party rooms, a rooftop barbecue area, arts and crafts room, bicycle storage and steam rooms. Appliances, parking and locker are all included. Listing agent Alex J. Wilson is with Re/Max Condos Plus, 416-996-5181.



\$628,800

Calgary

This northwest corner suite is located in the Arriva Towers in the historic Victoria Park community. The unit features an open floor plan with city skyline views, two balconies, two bathrooms, two parking stalls and a separate storage locker. The spacious kitchen has stainless Miele appliances and an open living and dining room. The building is close to shopping, restaurants and the river path system. Kelly P. Burke is a sales representative for Re/Max House of Real Estate, 403-287-3880.



\$259,900

Halifax

This suite is for sale at The Tides of Bedford condominiums. While not right in Halifax, this two-bedroom, two-bathroom condo resides in the heart of Bedford. It has a bright, spacious floor plan with southern exposure and views of the Bedford Basin. The building offers underground parking, a fitness centre, sauna, outdoor pool, guest suite, library and a common room. Condo fees include heat, hot water, parking and storage. Listing agent is Ernie Buote with Domus Realty, 902-499-3041.



\$539,000

Vancouver

This 715-sq.-ft. suite is ready to move in at The Mark condominiums, conveniently located near the Seawall and Yaletown's popular shopping, dining and entertainment options. The unit includes in-suite laundry and one parking space. The building is newly completed, featuring an open-concept living and dining area, engineered oak hardwood floors, granite countertops, stainless steel appliances and concierge service. Listing agent is Jimmy H. Cheung with Sutton Group West Coast Realty, 604-612-9230.



\$745,000

Ottawa

This bright, spacious suite at the Claridge Plaza condos is located near the Byward Market in the heart of downtown. The unit has a 750-sq.-ft., professionally landscaped terrace complete with gazebo and computerized watering system. Listing agent David Bournes says it's like a garden in the sky. The suite has plenty of windows and a spacious master retreat with private ensuite and balcony. Bournes is a sales representative with Royal LePage Team Realty, 613-725-1171.

Take a cue from the Golden Girls

DESIGN CENTRE

Karl Lohnes



Decorate with cool colours, fresh white and nautical themes to help prolong our short Canadian summer.

Within two months summer will be gone. Alberta may see snow flurries in the air, Nova Scotia will say goodbye to the sun and the rest of us will be dry cleaning our winter jackets in preparation for the long winter ahead. Why not make the inside of your home a celebration of summer that lasts all year long? Perhaps a guest or bath room could hold the theme of summer (without affecting the rest of your decor); or you choose to decorate like the Golden Girls and explode the tropics everywhere — a great decorating scheme to grow into retirement!



1

2

3

4

6

5

1 Summer Breeze Room Diffuser

Keep the ocean breeze in your home throughout the year with a natural room diffuser — made in beach-clad Australia. \$18, Simons.ca

2 Yacht Club Rug

Welcome your sailor out of the shower with a reminder of summer fun on the water. \$19, Simons.ca

3 Bruce Brown Films Endless Summer 50th Anniversary Edition Poster

Celebrate with on-trend colours from the beach. \$40, UrbanOutfitters.com

4 ESPRIT Ocean Breeze Bedding

Soft washed metallic blues overlap to emulate the ocean wash. From \$40, TheBay.com

5 Hand Woven Silky Aurora Pink Wool/Silk Kilim

Watch the colours of the summer sun as it sets underfoot. 6'x9', \$384, ECarpetsGallery.com

6 Stratford Wicker Butler Tray

From a serving tray on the balcony to a towel stand in the bath this butler works year round. \$130, BedBathAndBeyond.ca

TIPS

Beating the heat without AC

As summer temperatures — and utility bills — rise, there are some easy ways to keep cool that are cheaper and greener than air conditioning.

Cooling curtains

Pull down shades or draw curtains on windows facing south, east and west during the day, says Con Edison, which provides power to New York City. About 40 per cent of unwanted heat comes in through the windows. Even if air conditioning

is needed later in the day, drawing the curtains earlier means you can use less of it.

Get in the flow

When temperatures fall below 21 C, the Natural Resources Defence Council recommends turning off the air conditioner and opening the windows instead. Abigail Daken, cooling products manager for Energy Star says in climates with low to moderate humidity, where it's cold in the even-

ing, a "whole-house" fan to help draw cool air in through windows and force hot air out through upstairs vents is helpful. "A cheaper version is to open the windows and use the bathroom fan for exhaust, especially if there's no cross breeze," she said.

Light smart

Use energy-saving LED bulbs inside ceiling fans. They use five times less energy than incandescents and don't give off

as much heat, says Meg Watter, of the Natural Resources Defence Council.

Turn on appliances at night

Reduce the use of household appliances when temperatures climb. Summer is a great time to opt for outdoor grilling and foods that don't require cooking. Washers, dryers and dishwashers should be used at night, when temperatures are cooler, Con Edison says.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



The Haiku ceiling fan by Big Ass Fans is recognized by Energy Star as the top-ranked fan in energy efficiency. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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CONTRIBUTED

Real estate watchers get summer surprise

Interest rate cut will impact mortgages

The recent Bank of Canada interest rate cut is big, but not surprising based on recent economic news, said ComFree Commonsense Network brokerage's associate broker Scott Bollinger.

Citing concerns about Canada's contracting economy, the bank cut its benchmark rate by a quarter percentage point July 15.

"It's big news because Canadian home sellers and buyers have been waiting since 2010 for the Bank of Canada to hike its benchmark rate, not cut it," Bollinger said. "Never in modern history have we seen rates so low for so long, and this move assures that they will stay low for even longer."

Canada's central bank also cut its benchmark rate in February.

"That benchmark rate is more or less linked to the prime rate, which informs the mortgage percentage you or I would negotiate at the bank," Bollinger said. "I'd be shocked if we didn't see at least slightly cheaper mortgages as a result."

Lower mortgage rates mean buyers can pay more for properties using bigger mortgages

that are relatively easy to service. But that doesn't necessarily mean that lower rates will trigger a summer stampede into the market.

"Buyers do respond to mortgage rates, there's no question," he said. "But other factors like jobs, wages, confidence, prices and inventory will be much more in play."

Bollinger said the most recent bank rate cut will likely reignite the debate over whether Albertans are carrying too much household debt.

"Albertans' average household debt is the highest in the nation. But we also lead the nation in average earnings by a huge margin. Our ability to service those debts is much higher than anywhere else in the country."

Whatever the debate over household debt, and wherever retail bank mortgage rates end up, Bollinger said ComFree Commonsense Network brokerage's advice is not to get too wrapped up in interest rate chatter.

"We say to our customers, 'Ask yourself deeper questions about your desire to get into the market. Do I want a different home? Is there good inventory in the neighbourhoods I like? Is my job insulated from oil price volatility?'" Bollinger said.

"Those are much better questions than, 'Should I hurry into the market because the interest rate just dropped?'"

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De Grasse blasts 100-metre final

PAN AM 2015
Ontario track star wins sprint in 10.05

Canadian sprint phenom Andre De Grasse capped another big day for Canada's track and field team with a victory in the men's 100 metres Wednesday at the Pan American Games.

The 20-year-old from Markham crossed in 10.05 seconds, narrowly beating Ramon Gittens Barbados, who finished in 10.07.

"Somehow, I just managed to pull off the win," De Grasse said. "I had no pressure, my family and friends told me that no matter what happens, they are still proud of me. It has been a long season, and to do this, it is a wonderful feeling right now."

Earlier in the night, Canada's Melissa Bishop won gold in the women's 800 metres. The 26-year-old from Eganville, Ont., ran to victory in one minute 59.62 seconds.

"I knew the crowd was going to be loud no matter what, so I was just trying to put myself in a good position to be able to run in and let the crowd do its work, and let the training come through," Bishop said. "I'm really happy it worked out. It's so nice to win a gold medal at home."

Toronto's



Damian Warner
GETTY IMAGES FILE
Whitney McClintock
THE CANADIAN PRESS

Sarah Wells added a silver in the women's 400 hurdles.

Canada has 13 medals in athletics through two full days of competition and leads all countries with seven gold.

Also Wednesday, Canadian decathlete Damian Warner put himself on pace to break Michael Smith's Canadian record that has stood for 19 years.

The 25-year-old from London, Ont., takes a personal best score of 4,460 into Thursday.

The world championship bronze medallist opened with personal bests of 10.28 seconds in the 100 metres and 7.68 metres in the long jump.

He threw 14.36 in the shot put, the event that derailed his performance in May at the prestigious Hypo Meeting when he faulted on all three of his throws.

He then cleared 1.97 metres in the high jump — his best is 2.07 — and capped the night by winning the 400 metres in 47.66 seconds.

Canada finished Wednesday with 173 total medals — 64



Markham, Ont.'s, Andre De Grasse, who won the 100 metres Wednesday night, has one of Canada's seven gold medals in track and field. FRANK GUNN/THE CANADIAN PRESS

gold, 56 silver and 53 bronze.

Earlier, Whitney McClintock won the women's water-skiing competition, Rusty Malinoski of Humboldt, Sask., took the men's wakeboarding title and Hugo Houle finished first in the men's road cycling individual time trial.

McClintock finished ahead of American Regina Jaquess and Mexico's Carolina Chapoy in the women's water ski.

The native of Cambridge, Ont., took the lead after earning 8,370 points in the tricks event following a disappointing slalom run.

Jarret Llewellyn of Innisfail, Alta., added a silver in the men's overall.

Malinoski had a score of 89.11 and finished ahead of American Daniel Powers and Venezuela's Juan Mendez.

Malinoski was clearly relaxed

on the water, pumping his fist and egging on the crowd to cheer louder in his final pass.

Houle, of Ste-Perpetue, Que., finished the 37-kilometre time trial in 45 minutes, 13.4 seconds.

"Today I had the best ride of my life for sure," Houle said.

Mexico's Ignatio Prada was second, 1:17.87 back of Houle, while Sean MacKinnon of Hamilton, Ont., took bronze.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

BASKETBALL

Canada's men's basketball team rallied for an 88-83 win over Argentina.

Andrew Nicholson and Jamal Murray combined for 44 points, and Brady Heslip had six key points with time winding down as Canada improved to 2-0.



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MULTICULTURAL NIGHT

Bouchard still confident in bounce-back ability

TENNIS

Sputtering star looking to turn season around in T.O.

Eugenie Bouchard was all smiles on the Toronto waterfront Wednesday, taking part in a clinic with young kids, hamming it up with fellow Canadian tennis star Milos Raonic, and engaging with fans and spectators alike.

There were no signs that her unexpected season-long slump has got her down.

Bouchard was the talk of the tennis world in 2014 after reaching the semifinals at the first three Grand Slam events, including a trip to the Wimbledon final. She won her first WTA title at the Nuremberg Cup last year and finished the season ranked seventh in the world.

Everything seemed to be lining up nicely for the 21-year-old from Westmount, Que. In addition to her on-court success, she signed with sports management powerhouse WME-IMG to help maximize the value of her brand and expand her presence in the fashion industry.

Bouchard appeared primed to take things to the next level on and off the court. Instead, her 2015 season has simply been a disaster.

It's hard to pinpoint the reason why she has managed only a handful of victories this year.

It's definitely been tough but I'm sure she has all the answers.
Milos Raonic



Eugenie Bouchard mingles with local kids during an exhibition match atop a barge docked on Lake Ontario just off Toronto.

AARON VINCENT ELKAIM/THE CANADIAN PRESS

She may still be adjusting to new coach Sam Sumyk. Expectations have been much higher and Bouchard has battled an abdominal injury in recent weeks.

She said Wednesday that she's feeling better, is back training and is not paying attention to the critics.

"It's been interesting for me to see how when I started doing well, how everyone jumped on the bandwagon or whatever — building me up so much," Bouchard said. "And then to see how they would break you down so much as well, so it's just how the media is, to always have a story and things like that. I just separate myself from that. 'I know what I do and I know what I believe in. It's hard not to hear it or see it, but (I try)

to just kind of give it some distance and not really worry about it."

Bouchard's season began with a quarter-final loss to Russian star Maria Sharapova at the Australian Open. It has been a steady decline since.

She lost in the round of 16 at her next two tournaments, fell to a No. 113-ranked qualifier in Miami and lost to a 66th-ranked opponent in her first match at her next tournament. That was followed by a pair of Fed Cup losses and opening-match defeats in five of her next seven events.

Bouchard recently slipped

14 positions to No. 26 in the world rankings.

"I'm definitely hard on myself so if I do have a bad loss, I'm like 'Well, I completely deserve this.' You know what I mean?," she said. "But there definitely are some harsher critics than others and so-called haters and things like that. But I think it's all part of the job so you know, bring it on."

She'll try to turn things around at the Aug. 8-16 Rogers Cup at the Aviva Centre in north Toronto. The men's tournament will be held Aug. 7-16 at Montreal's Uniprix Stadium.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

TOUR DE FRANCE

Alpines shake things up

The speedometer clocked between 50 and 60 kilometres per hour as the pine trees whipped by, and the riders leaned left to right and back again to negotiate the snaking, bumpy descent.

Winning the Tour de France isn't only about having the ability to get uphill fast. You've got to have nerves of steel going downhill, too.

Chris Froome proved Wednesday that he's got both.

The 30-year-old Briton retained the leader's yellow jersey as the Tour sped toward its crescendo in the Alps.

The 17th stage included a harrowing 16-kilometre descent that dealt perhaps the final blow to Alberto Contador's distant hope of a third Tour victory and doused the ambitions of promising French rider Thibaut Pinot for a stage win. They both lost time after hitting the asphalt on the way down from the treacherous Allos Pass.

Germany's Simon Geschke won the stage by surging out of a breakaway bunch and keeping at bay Andrew Talansky of the U.S., who was second, by 32 seconds at the end of the 161-kilometre ride from Digne-Les-Bains to Pra Loup ski resort.

Fellow American Tejay van Garderen, who was third overall as the stage began, pulled out of the race with a headache and a lack of energy after fighting a respiratory infection for several days.

"It almost feels like I just want to disappear right now," said a despondent Van Garderen. "It was hard to look my teammates in the eyes (and) it was hard to call my wife and explain to her what was going on." THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



American Tejay van Garderen pulled out of the Tour de France with a respiratory infection. GETTY IMAGES

NBA

New Lakers excited despite quiet Kobe

Roy Hibbert, Lou Williams and Brandon Bass all say they joined the Los Angeles Lakers for a fresh start.

They're also looking forward to playing with Kobe Bryant after they get a chance to talk to him.

Hibbert is eager to revitalize his career in Los Angeles after seven seasons with the Indiana Pacers. The seven-foot-two former all-star is determined to return to dominant defensive form after a perceived down season.

Williams believes there



Lou Williams
GETTY IMAGES

will be plenty of shots to go around when he plays with Bryant and Nick Young. The Sixth Man of the Year is willing to play any role to help the Lakers, who are coming off the worst season in franchise history.

None of the newcomers has spoken with Bryant yet.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



NBA IN BRIEF

Division title might not guarantee playoffs: Silver

An NBA division title might soon mean a banner but no assurance of a playoff spot.

Commissioner Adam Silver said Wednesday the league is leaning toward not guaranteeing a post-season berth to a team that wins its division.

Silver had already said he expected a change from the current format that guarantees division winners no worse than the No. 4 seed.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

MLB

Depth guys help hurting Nationals

The banged-up Washington Nationals have been relying on their bench players to help keep them atop the NL East.

Danny Espinosa and Michael Taylor were the latest fill-ins to come through.

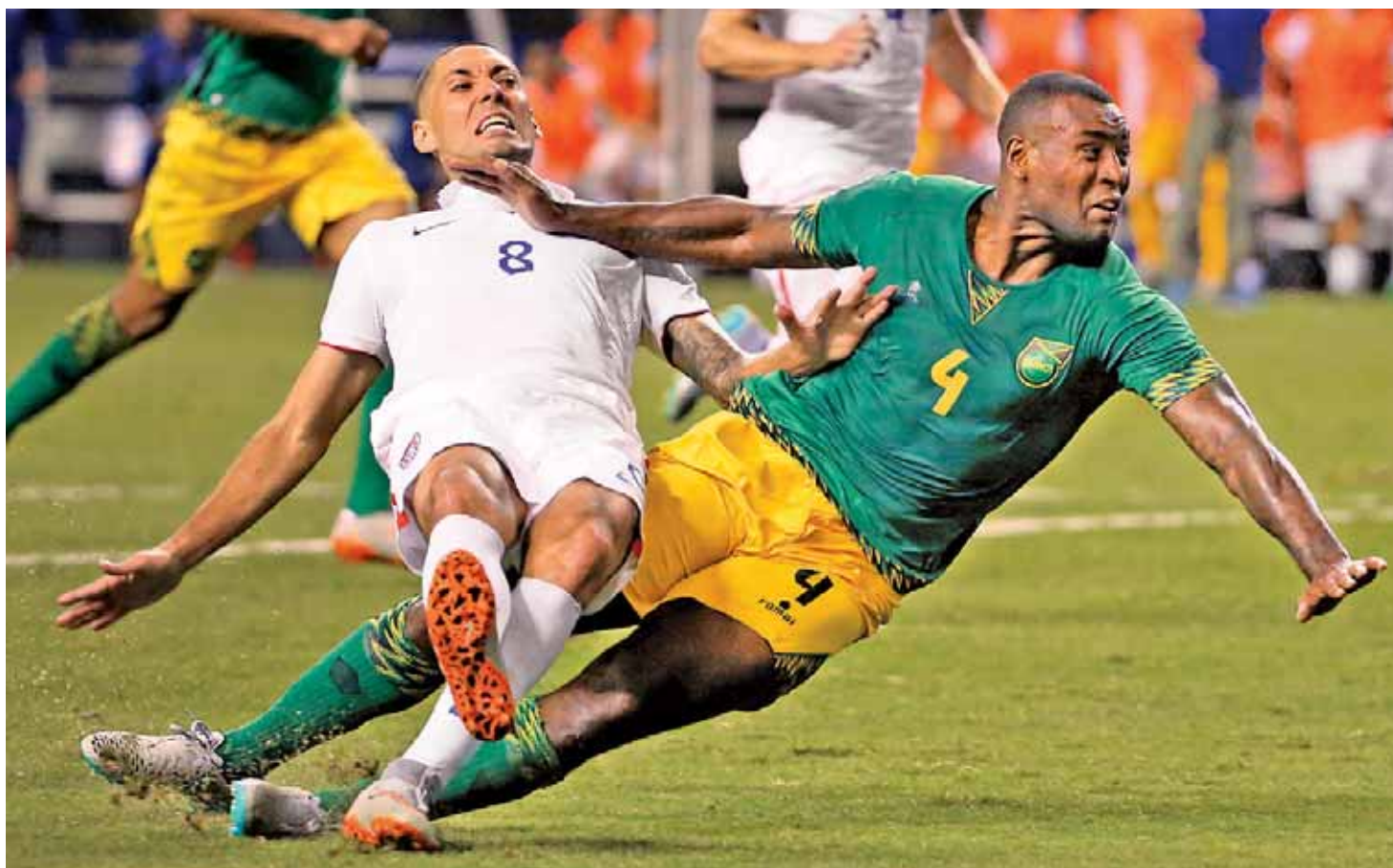
Taylor had a tying two-out, two-run single in the eighth inning. Espinosa followed with an RBI double and the Nationals rallied from three runs down to beat the New York Mets 4-3 on Wednesday.

"We trust everybody that's

on this team," Espinosa said. "There wasn't any panic there. (We) root for the next guy and keep on grinding."

Already minus four everyday players and right-hander Stephen Strasburg, Washington lost third baseman Yunel Escobar to an apparent left hand or wrist injury during his at-bat in the second inning. X-rays were negative, but Escobar will have further tests.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



Jamaican defender Wes Morgan takes down American striker Clint Dempsey on Wednesday in Atlanta. DAVID GOLDMAN/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

CANADIAN OPEN

Looking for luck to turn

Golfers at the Canadian Open should put away their umbrellas and grab their sunscreen.

After rain and wind delayed the British Open and forced the first Monday finish since 1988, weather is setting up almost perfectly for Canada's national open at Glen Abbey Golf Club.

Now that the wet, wild and windy time in Scotland is over, the near-30 golfers turning around to play the RBC Canadian Open are looking forward to some dry weather and a course that provides a stark contrast to St. Andrews.

"You're expecting hard, tough conditions at the British Open, at The Open Championship, but not unplayable weather and conditions," said Jason Day, who tied for fourth at the British. "You can attack this golf course a lot more."

Golf Canada CEO Scott Simmons knocked on the wood table in front of him even discussing the weather. But the forecast is for mostly a clean four rounds of play.

That's a world of difference from the wind-beaten, rain-soaked British Open that was forced to finish Monday. The Canadian Open, back at Glen Abbey for the 27th time, is a more predictable style of game.

"You can get a lot more unlucky over there," said Canadian Graham DeLaet, who finished tied for 68th at the British.

"Usually when you hit the ball on the fairway, it stays on the fairway here. When you hit a ball and land the ball on the green, you know about how far it's going to go before it (stops)."

The charm of links golf in Scotland and the challenge that presents in one of golf's four majors is valuable.

But the Canadian Open should be a more enjoyable experience for players and those watching in person and on television. Canadian Open demanding.

THE CANADIAN PRESS



Weyburn, Sask., native Graham DeLaet finished 68th at last weekend's British Open. GETTY IMAGES

Reggae Boyz ride into final

GOLD CUP

Jamaica stuns host Americans for historic semifinal win

Jamaica stunned the United States with a pair of first-half goals, one off a blunder by goalkeeper Brad Guzan, and held on for a 2-1 win in the Gold Cup semifinals Wednesday night

WEDNESDAY In Atlanta



that dealt the Americans their biggest upset defeat.

Darren Mattocks, who plays for Vancouver in MLS, put the Reggae Boyz ahead with 31st-minute header directly off a throw-in. Giles Barnes followed

five minutes later with a goal on an 18-yard free kick after Guzan was caught going outside the penalty area on a routine throw.

Michael Bradley scored in the 48th minute for the Americans, but it wasn't enough to prevent a stunning setback in front of sold-out crowd at the

Georgia Dome. The small contingent of green-and-gold-clad Jamaican fans saluted their underdog team, ranked 76th in the world but now becoming the first Caribbean nation to reach a Gold Cup

Toronto FC captain Michael Bradley scored the Americans' lone goal Wednesday.

GETTY IMAGES



final. The Reggae Boyz will face the winner of Wednesday's late semifinal between Mexico or Panama on Sunday in Philadelphia.

The 34th-ranked Americans, who had played in five straight Gold Cup finals, will face the loser of Wednesday's second semifinal in the third-place game on Saturday. They also will meet the Gold Cup winner in a playoff for the region's berth in the 2017 Confederations Cup. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

EXHIBITION

N.Y. Red Bulls 'B' team stuns Chelsea

A New York Red Bulls team made up of mostly developmental third-division players scored four second-half goals and stunned Chelsea 4-2 on Wednesday night in the English Premier League champion's first game on its U.S. preseason exhibition tour.

Sean Davis scored twice and Franklin Castellanos had a goal and an assist to help the team with only four players who have any minutes in MLS this season upset the 2012 European champion and five-time English

league winner.

Loic Remy gave Chelsea the lead midway through the first half, but Castellanos tied it in the 51st minute, 16-year-old Tyler Adams added a header and Davis tacked on a pair to rally New York and stun the near capacity and largely blue-clad crowd of 24,076 at Red Bull Arena.

This is the third time in four years Chelsea has toured the United States before beginning its season.

THE CANADIAN PRESS



Chelsea's Victor Moses and New York's Shawn McLaws vie for a header on Wednesday in Harrison, N.J.

GETTY IMAGES



SOCCER IN BRIEF

Defoe returns to burn TFC

Jermain Defoe scored twice in the second half to give Sunderland a 2-1 victory over Toronto FC in an exhibition game Wednesday at BMO Field.

Jonathan Osorio gave the MLS club the lead with a goal early in the second half before Defoe went to work for the Premier League team.

The game was a return for Defoe, who spent an injury-shortened season with Toronto last season before returning to England.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Liverpool introduce Benteke

Liverpool signed Belgium striker Christian Benteke from Premier League rival Aston Villa on Wednesday in a 32.5 million pound (\$50.7 million US) deal to strengthen the club's attack for next season.

A week after selling Raheem Sterling to Manchester City for 49 million pounds, Liverpool met the release clause in Benteke's contract with Villa and signed the 24-year-old to "a long term contract" at Anfield. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

RECIPE Peach and Dried Cranberry Crisp Skillet



EAT LIGHT AT HOME

Rose Reisman

rosereisman.com

@rosereisman



Ready in

Prep time: 15 minutes
Cook time: 25 minutes
Serves: 12

Ingredients

- 7 ripe peaches (skin on), cut into 1/2 slices
- 1/3 cup granulated sugar
- 1/3 cup brown sugar
- 1/3 cup dried cranberries
- 2 Tbsp cornstarch
- 1 1/2 tsp cinnamon, divided
- 2 Tbsp lemon juice
- 3/4 cup all-purpose flour
- 2/3 cup brown sugar
- 3/4 cup large rolled oats
- 1/3 cup chopped toasted almonds
- 1/3 cup vegetable oil
- 2 Tbsp water

Directions

1. Preheat the oven to 375 F. Lightly coat a 10-inch oven-proof skillet with cooking spray.
2. In a bowl, stir together peaches, granulated sugar, 1/3 cup brown sugar, dried cranberries, cornstarch, 1 tsp cinnamon and lemon juice. Place in the skillet.
3. In another bowl, stir together the flour, 2/3 cup brown sugar, oats, almonds, oil, water and remaining cinnamon and mix until the mixture is crumbly. Sprinkle over the peaches.
4. Place the pan in the centre of the oven and bake for 25 to 30 minutes until the crisp is golden and peaches are just tender.

Nutrition per serving

- Calories 246
- Carbohydrates 42.5 g
- Fibre 2.6 g
- Total fat 8.2 g

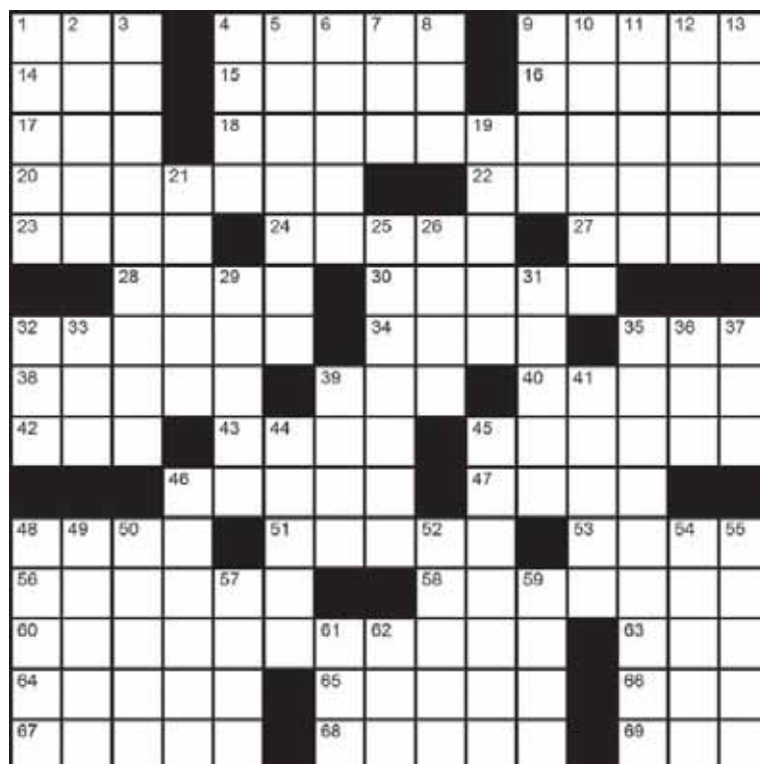
PHOTO: ROSE REISMAN

CROSSWORD Canada Across and Down

BY KELLY ANN BUCHANAN

ACROSS

1. Owns
4. Ms. Fisher, and others
9. Capital of Ghana
14. Noah's boat
15. Ruffle, as an '80s hairstyle
16. Rock drill
17. 1982's version for Rocky
18. July 23rd to July 26th, 2015: Nanaimo Marine Festival and World Championship ____ (Splash! Splash!)
20. Engine-of-a-car part: 2 wds.
22. Human
23. 'A' in AD
24. "____ Love": 1959 hit for Phil Phillips with The Twilights
27. Fails to be
28. Cartoon bear
30. Investigate
32. New
34. Catherine ____ (Henry VIII's sixth/last wife)
35. Mr. McLean's of the Backstreet Boys
38. Egypt's capital
39. ____ Antonio, Texas
40. Arctic abode
42. Web connect-or, briefly
43. Banned orchard spray
45. Condescends
46. Entrap
47. Consequently
48. Drift through the air
51. Rice dish
53. Ms. Jasper, Aboriginal singer/song-



- writer from Chilliwack, British Columbia
56. Shoelace tips
58. Ornamental music/architecture style
60. Hotel guest's request: 2 wds.
63. 'Press' suffix
64. Movie category
65. Helped

66. Lithium-____ battery
67. Ancient companion for Dionysus
68. Shortages
69. US intelligence org.

DOWN

1. Seaport of Israel

2. 'Parliament' suffix
3. Swim sans swimsuit
4. "Let ____" by The Beatles
5. Contains the food container's freshness: 2 wds.
6. Coffee order

7. Volcanic residue
8. Arrange
9. Superior at a French monastery
10. British 'Street' soap opera, to fans
11. Unrefined
12. Military mission, e.g.
13. "____ you the

- clever one!"
19. ____ the challenge (Ready to take things on)
21. Unimpressed audience member, perhaps
25. Clothing
26. Port city of Algeria
29. 'Punny' joke reaction
31. Nova Scotia island in the area of the Gulf of Maine and Bay of Fundy
32. Nero's 1101
33. '____' in Ottawa
35. Provincial park in Ontario since 1893
36. Comedian Mr. Stewart
37. Help!
39. Draped dress
41. Topo __, puppet on "The Ed Sullivan Show"
44. Expire
45. Vandalized, in a way
46. Like the 'handle' of a bouquet
48. Hospital sections
49. Ancient marketplace
50. Parade route display
52. ____ by the rules
54. Overseas moneys
55. Suffering wife in Edith Wharton's 1911 novel Ethan Frome
57. Bygone sovereign
59. Some Smarties
61. Sprited
62. Try

★ IT'S ALL IN THE STARS by Sally Brompton

Aries March 21 - April 20
The sun enters the sympathetic sign of Leo today, marking the start of one of the busiest and most enjoyable times of the year. Make every minute count.

Taurus April 21 - May 21
You feel out of touch with what is going on around you. Others seem to be enthralled by events that mean nothing to you. Go your own way and do your own thing — you will be better off for it.

Gemini May 22 - June 21
You will find it difficult to keep your nose out of other people's business today. The sun's change of signs brings to the fore the inquisitive side of your nature.

Cancer June 22 - July 23
Money matters will be of even more importance than usual for the next few weeks. The planets indicate there is a lot at stake financially, so do whatever it takes to maximize profits and minimize your losses.

Leo July 24 - Aug. 23
The sun and Mercury move into your birth sign today, making this the ideal time to begin something new. You have done lots of thinking and soul searching in recent weeks. Now you can apply what you have learnt about yourself.

Virgo Aug. 24 - Sept. 23
You have got to stop taking each and every thing that happens personally. The world is for you, not against you.

Libra Sept. 24 - Oct. 23
Some people have been rather critical of you in recent weeks but over the next few days you will be able to show that you were right and they were wrong.

Scorpio Oct. 24 - Nov. 22
You may say that you don't care for status and recognition but with the sun and Mercury moving into the career area of your chart today it will be thrust upon you. You make a better leader than most.

Sagittarius Nov. 23 - Dec. 21
Something that meant nothing to you in the past now means everything to you. Some may think you have taken leave of your senses but most likely you've found them at last.

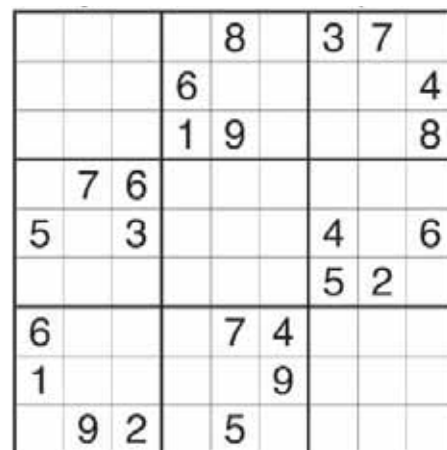
Capricorn Dec. 22 - Jan. 20
Today you will find yourself thinking more deeply about who you are and what you should be doing with your life. The answers you reach may surprise you.

Aquarius Jan. 21 - Feb. 19
If you want to succeed, you must co-operate. Stop looking for ways to one up your rivals. Look for ways you can help each other instead. There is safety in numbers, and profit too.

Pisces Feb. 20 - March 20
At least one of your habits needs to be looked at and, if negative, transformed into something more positive. At work, try to unchain yourself from the same old routines.

CONCEPTIS SUDOKU by Dave Green

Every row, column and box contains 1-9



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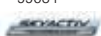
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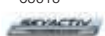
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FROM

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\$208/bw

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